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DAYTON, O.—J. V. Wilkie, 29 South Jefferson street.

COLUMBUS, O.—Vladuet News Stand, 390 High street.

It is a rather rare week, nowadays, that does not develop a plot against King Peter, of Serbia. The Serbs have had a taste of blood royal and seem to like it amazingly.

The Journal trusts the good Mr. Keach is not going to sleep on his job of running down the author of that forged letter. Such a crime calls for quick and certain justice.

The Russian engineers who built the Manchurian end of the Transiberian Railroad are accused of defalcations amounting to several millions. The Russians are rapidly taking their place among the civilized nations.

If all the resapported Democratic office-hunters that were defeated in the recent election desire to go into litigation, there is no particular objection. It might entertain them and help out a few impecunious lawyers.

Rival gubernatorial candidates in Louisiana have followed the example set in Arkansas by indulging in fistfights. Bad as it is, this is much to be preferred over the old method of settling personal difficulties with the pistol.

Before getting too much excited over the Gas Trust prospects it would be just as well to await the action of the trustees next week. They will doubtless take sound legal advice and act with a full understanding of their powers.

The president of the International Association of Machinists has sent out a word of warning to members to seek to arbitrate difficulties and avoid labor disputes at the present time. It is very timely just now, but it would be good advice for all time.

Some of the strong free-trade papers of England speak of the "dumping" of American and German iron and steel on the British market as "an unmitigated blessing." We are willing to bless our British cousins that way right along, and trust they will continue to like it.

In the local election at Oyster Bay next Tuesday President Roosevelt will for the first time in his life vote for a Democrat. The recipient of this honor is Judge O'Brien, who has been nominated for reelection by both parties with a view of taking the judiciary out of politics.

A dispatch from Hamilton, O., where Hon. John W. Kern addressed a Democratic meeting Thursday night, says "he talked solely of taxation and urged Ohio to adopt Johnson's ideas." If Mr. Kern will stump Indiana in favor of the single-tax idea he will contribute materially towards swelling the Republican majority next year.

To-night will be Halloween night. From having been in old times an occasion for innocent merry-making it has become one of malicious trespass by city hoodlums, who take advantage of every license to commit depredations and destroy property. The police cannot be everywhere, but they should make an extra effort to-night to arrest some of the young rowdies who commit these depredations.

A former Democratic candidate for Governor in Ohio predicts that the State will go Republican next week by 50,000 majority, and intimates that he will not be sorry if it does, as it will end Tom Johnson. "By next year," he adds, "we shall be in the midst of hard times, for which Roosevelt and his administration must answer. By then, I am sanguine, we shall have crushed Tom Johnson's aspirations to build up a personal party and can unite our factions." In Ohio, as elsewhere, the hope of Democratic success is built on the ending of prosperity. It is a great hard times party.

The Journal believes in physical as well as mental exercise, and finds much to commend in college athletics as long as they are kept within reasonable bounds. Football seems to have established its claim to first place as a college game, and it is sometimes a little rough in the main game. To-day's game between the State University and Purdue teams promises to be a very interesting one, and the town will be largely given over to the friends of the contesting parties. Here is hoping there may be no bones broken and that the best team may win.

Representatives of the Ohio River Valley Improvement Association are congratulating themselves that they succeeded in getting an endorsement of their project at the latest convention in New Orleans. It was the intention to commit the convention to

clusively to Mississippi river levee improvement, but representatives of the other interests succeeded in getting a demand for deeper water in the Ohio. There is no more important river improvement proposition before the country than that which aims at securing a channel of nine feet of water the year round from Pittsburgh to Cairo.

### THE CITY AND THE CONSUMERS' TRUST COMPANY.

The formation of the Consumers' Gas Trust Company fifteen years ago attracted much attention throughout the country. It was the first attempt to apply the principle of popular organization and trust management to a public utility, and while the attempt was universally approved many doubted if it would succeed. The public had become so accustomed to seeing all kinds of public utilities managed by private corporations for private interests that they could hardly bring themselves to believe that a corporation could succeed whose sole object was to serve and benefit the public without becoming a source of private gain to any person. It is believed that no other corporation was ever formed for the avowed purpose of furnishing the public with fuel at a moderate profit from the beginning, and finally at actual cost. The uniqueness of the movement attracted much attention from outside and won many compliments for Indianapolis as the first city to develop a new form of civic pride. It was one of the earliest indications that this is "no mean city." The original promoters and incorporators of the company included many of the most public-spirited citizens of that time, nearly all of whom went into the movement as a matter of principle. They were firm believers in the popular benefit principle on which it was organized and had no other idea but that the original plan of the company would be carried out to the end in good faith. Some of the original incorporators have passed away, while others still survive and are among the most prominent citizens. Among the former are Albert G. Porter, Eli Lilly, John W. Murphy, Julius F. Pratt, John M. Butler, E. C. Atkins, William P. Fishback. It would be impossible to impute any but the most honorable motives to any of these departed citizens, and equally so to most of those who still survive. There can be no doubt but the dominant motive at the organization of the company, a motive that commanded general admiration and approval on account of its public spirit, was the desire to secure for the survivors of the original incorporators and stockholders of the company. This statement, however, is subject to some qualification, for it is evident that a few of the original stockholders have taken advantage of being on the inside to organize a scheme to divert it from its original purpose and convert it, together with its large and valuable properties, into a machine for private profit. This can only be done by a complete repudiation of its original purpose and of the understanding of a large majority of its original stockholders, by discrediting altogether the original idea of a trust for the benefit of the city. The Journal does not believe the courts will permit a public trust to be so diverted and prostituted from its original purpose, and it believes that the city, in the name of the people for whose benefit the trust was created, should take steps to assert its rights and those of the people. Let it still be said that when it comes to the assertion and protection of popular rights and to the preservation of a public utility created in the interest of the people, this is no mean city.

### THE RECEIVERSHIP SUIT.

Mr. George Marott, in his application for a receiver for the Consumers' Gas Trust Company, indiscriminately attacks both the trustees and directors of the trust, some of whom made very great sacrifices in putting this company on its feet, in order that the people might have cheap natural gas. This was notably the case with Mr. Hanna, who put his personal fortune behind the enterprise to the extent of several hundred thousand dollars, without thought of profit or compensation in any shape. Mr. Marott has been and is a heavy speculator in the stock of the company, holding, according to his own confession in his bill of complaint, \$91,000 of the stock, much of which was bought at par or less than par. Manifestly his interest lies in a distribution of the assets of the company to the holders of stock certificates. The only way this can be accomplished is by the appointment of a receiver and a receiver's sale of the property, and this is just what Mr. Marott's petition for a receiver means, regardless of any extralegal talk in the petition.

The purpose of the Eureka Investment Company and its organizers can only be surmised at this stage of the proceedings, but, if all that Mr. Marott alleges about them were true and their purpose were to wreck the company and wipe out its obligations to furnish cheap fuel gas to the public, he could not play more directly into their hands than he has done by bringing suit for a receivership.

If the natural gas supply had continued in its original volume there would be no question but that all interest on the original stockholders in the Consumers' Gas Trust Company would have ceased when the stock was paid off, with interest, and the city would be the only party in interest. Now, what is the effect of the failure of the gas supply? This is a misfortune for the people, but it cannot affect their relation to that of the city to the assets of the company. It is the city and the people who have suffered by the failure of the gas supply, and not the stockholders in the Consumers' Trust Company. The latter have received all their money back with interest, but the people, after paying for the company's plant, are out of gas. If there had been no failure of the gas supply the original stock would now be extinguished, and by what process of reasoning can it be held that failure of the gas revived the stock and reinvested the stockholders with a large property that had not cost them a cent, taking it away from the parties who had paid for every bit of it in cash?

Are frogs game? A court at Belleville, Ill., has so decided against a St. Louis man who hunted and shot them in Illinois without a hunter's license. The defendant admitted that he had hunted and shot the animals without a license and produced a bag full of them in court, but denied that they were game. The court held differently, and a higher court affirmed the decision. As frogs are indigenous to Indiana, hunters who invade this State in pursuit of game will please take notice.

William J. Bryan has been the victim of what he calls an amusing typographical error. "When I got to New York," he says,

### POINTS FROM COUNTY PAPERS.

Another Result.  
Laporte Herald.  
The convict count at the State Prison is 100 less than a year ago. Thus does crime decrease under Republican prosperity.

Our Corn and Our Climate.  
Alvah Carpenter says he saw a man last Friday with overcoat and mittens on, snow falling all around him, cutting and shocking green corn.

Rochester Republican.  
Win Morrow, the gentleman who is conductor on the Standard Oil Company's train, says another rise in the price of oil is coming. All eyes should be turned toward Rockefeller to see where he will make his next donation he takes from the pockets of the people.

Terre Haute Finances.  
Rockville Tribune.  
The Terre Haute street fair managers report a balance of \$4 in the treasury. A set of financiers who can run a street fair at Terre Haute and have that much money left is capable of drafting a financial bill that will stand the granta of a Republican administration.

As to Automobiles.  
Mitchell Commercial.  
We have been in them a few times. It gives a fellow a mighty plutocratic feeling. We have often wondered how an automobile would strike the long whiskered Pops out in Kansas. With the mammoth wheel crop of this year they ought not look so bad.

Apple Crop Is Good.  
Liberty Express.  
Wayne county has an apple crop this year that makes them think they live in one corner of the old Garden of Eden. It is the largest in years. The farmers have a crop of them and they have not only from their neighbors, who had no trees, to store their extra store.

"Palladium" of Our Liberties.  
Mitchell Commercial.  
G. L. Forter brought to our office Saturday a palladium leaf that measured forty-four inches long, twenty-eight inches wide and stood on the stem five feet and eight inches high. He also brought us a bean pod twenty-five inches long. There may be longer bean pods than this but we are frank to admit we haven't seen them.

Faithful Lady.  
Hope Journal.  
A remarkable instance of faithfulness on the part of a woman to her lover is that of a woman of Toronto, this State, who was engaged many years to a young man near Chicago, Ill., and who died while preparing a home for him and was buried in the neighborhood. For thirty years this woman has made an annual pilgrimage to the grave of her lover in the month of the year in which he died. Such devotion is not without parallel, but it is so rare as to make it remarkable.

And Not Much Culture.  
Edinburg Courier.  
The color line appears to be very sharply drawn in Indiana college circles. A few boys of means have refused to meet the Washburn College football team because it has a negro in its make-up. If this opposition to the black man continues we may hear of them and their friends not only crowding an unusually large number of meetings into the six days, but have also persuaded the senator to give a few heart-to-heart talks to precinct committeemen in the various counties.

Indiana Editorial Notes.  
General Miles is reported to have said that he would rather be the owner of a Texas oil well than President of the United States. Happily he may have his choice.

And Ann is only eighteen years old, so says the man who set a million of people, more or less, to figure it out. Well, let it go at that, but we shall always think that both Ann and Mary lived about their age.

Mr. Bristow took one hundred and ten thousand words to tell what he knew about the postoffice scandal. It is evident that what our public men need is a thorough course of training in the use of the typewriter. The word of justice seems powerless against the pistol in South Carolina, yet South Carolina politicians who contemplate disposing of their enemies should remember that the United States has a law which will hire twelve lawyers—Goshen News-Times.

Mr. Taggart having finished the work of forming Mayor Holtzman's cabinet, is now at French Lick ready to entertain any of his appointed friends whose salaries will permit them to sojourn at a first-class hotel for a few days to take a rest—Lafayette Journal.

Several thousand actors are out of jobs in New York and wondering what to do next. It will occur to few of them that art and the public would suffer little if they went to work in the city of Washington, where they would be paid well and would be greatly relieved by the theater-patronizing public—South Bend Times.

Now labor unions are trying to boycott nonunion lovers. Girls are asked not to keep company with men who cannot show a union card. It is no doubt a "union card" in prospect that causes half the love-making, but the card is generally issued by county clerk and not by a labor union—Elkhart Review.

The United States has no reason to be dissatisfied with the situation in Manchuria. We have an open door for trade in any event and in case Russia and Japan try conclusions in the exhibiting game of war we will have all eyes turned to such a matter, and neither view with alarm nor point with abhorrence—Haverhill Tribune.

At Waterbury, Conn., Democratic candidate for mayor who stood for laxity in the enforcement of law against rioting, providing the disorder was inaugurated in the name of labor, has been hopelessly snowed under. No one in this country has anything to gain by an assault upon law and order and the working man least of all—Muncie Times.

The closing of a bank here and there is not necessarily alarming. Instances of that kind recently transpiring simply go to prove that property has caused some speculation. The elements to creep into the legitimate line of banking that have no right to be there and the sooner they are weeded out the better for the stable business interests of the country at large—Lafayette Courier.

Ex-Senator Charles A. Towne says that he does him good to bathe again in the atmosphere of honest Democracy. Just how much the ex-senator is in need of a bath is a question that alone is best able to determine, but if he feels better after that kind of an experience we don't see why anybody should deter him. There are persons who would be improved by a bath of almost any sort and if Mr. Towne cleanses himself among them so be it—Marion Chronicle.

"If the price of silver," remarks the Webb City (Mo.) Register, "continues to advance until sixteen ounces is worth more than an ounce of the yellow metal the goldbugs will be ashamed to acknowledge that they ever opposed the free coinage of silver."

In that contingency all Americans could rejoice in the enhancement in the value of one of our products; but the silver party would do for its project what it has done for the country at large—Lafayette Courier.

Publisher William Jennings Bryan, of the Commoner, in setting forth the merits of his publication, is taking a medium, quotes a letter from J. W. McCreary, of Dallas, Mo., in the course of which he says: "Missouri lands are steadily advancing and are going materially higher."

And this under a high tariff administration possessed of the power to tax every dollar of goods to see to it that the advertising columns of

his journal do not get into a joint debate with the editorial columns—Salem Republican Leader.

suppose he is looking after his congressional fences, but that is about the extent of the activity in politics, so far as I know—Goshen News-Times.

"How about Otto Williams' candidacy against Watson?" "Don't know a thing about it, except what I see in the newspapers," replied Mr. Brown. "I saw in the New Castle Press that a statement was made by Williams in which he said he did not believe the first requisite of a good congressman was the ability to tell stories to an avowed committee work, or something to that effect. I understand Williams is a candidate and is doing some log-rolling."

Col. J. W. Headington, of Portland, one of the new members of the Board of Regents of the soldiers' monument, was here yesterday to attend a session of the board.

The question as to what has become of the Jefferson League was put last evening to the Democratic stalwart from Mt. Vernon, Magistrate G. Menzies.

"That's the question that has become of it?" replied the major, with a chuckle. "I haven't seen or heard of it and I'm reasonably sure it's not concealed anywhere down in the 'pocket.' I've heard of two or three men who claimed to belong to it, but they haven't been coming any halls in which to hold meetings."

The major seemed very much amused over the short and not altogether glowing career of the league and apparently will not be one of the mourners at the funeral. He admitted, however, that only course for Democrats to pursue in Indiana, or anywhere else for that matter, is to avoid any everything that would tend to factional disturbances and for a change make common cause against Republicans.

Edgar M. Baldwin, of the Fairmount News, was one of the callers at Senator Beveridge's office yesterday. Mr. Baldwin says Senator C. C. Lyons is looking after his candidacy for the secretaryship of the Republican State committee, and "we believe he'll land it," he added.

C. C. Shirley, of Kokomo, was here to leave for his home with the Indiana state's fair commission.

Ed H. Gillman, of Detroit, is in the city to see Harry S. New concerning arrangements for a hunting trip up to Turtle Lake, in the northern part of Michigan.

"I'm going to see Harry S. New," he said last evening at the Claypool, "and it's about time we started, for the bird season is open now and every day we delay we miss just that much fine sport. I understand Mr. New is pretty well acquainted with the gunning for the secretaryship of the Republican national committee. I don't know whether he will be able to get along with us or not, but I hope to coax him away for a week or two at least."

Senator Beveridge will return to-night from a week's strenuous campaigning in Ohio. The senator has delivered eight or ten formal addresses to say nothing of numerous informal speeches from the rear end of his train. The managers of the campaign evidently determined to make the most of the senator while they had him at their disposal, and they have not only crowded an unusually large number of meetings into the six days, but have also persuaded the senator to give a few heart-to-heart talks to precinct committeemen in the various counties.

The senator will be at his office all of next week, as he announced before his departure for Ohio that he did not expect to return to Washington until just before the opening of Congress.

Harry S. New, of this city, has returned from a two weeks' trip to Mexico, where he went to view the property of the Indiana-Sonora Copper Mine Company, in which several Indiana men are interested. During his absence Mr. New's name has been frequently mentioned in connection with the secretaryship of the Republican national committee, and an expression on the subject from him was sought immediately upon his return.

"There really is nothing for me to say on the subject," said Mr. New. "The secretary of the national committee will not be elected for some months yet; not until after the members of the committee have been elected and the new committee for organization, immediately following the election of the members of the committee, and the chairman, vice chairman and secretary selected will be men who are satisfactory to the party's candidate for President."

I have never said nor intimated that I am a candidate for the secretaryship. I have indicated that I would like to succeed myself as member of the national committee from Indiana. Of course, I understand that my name has been mentioned in the newspapers in connection with the secretaryship, but you know as much about that as I do."

Mr. New's attention was called to a Washington dispatch in the Evening Journal, in which a member of the Cabinet was quoted as saying that Mr. New can have the secretaryship if he will, but his only answer was a smile. He did not say whether or not he wanted it.

John B. Lloyd, of Shoals, one of Martin county's well-known Republicans, was at the Columbia Club last night.

Major George W. Kreitenstein, of Terre Haute, former custodian of the State House, was in the city yesterday. "I've known a thing about politics," he said. "I've been attending strictly to business for the last six months and just this morning I understand that my name has been mentioned in the newspapers in connection with the secretaryship, but you know as much about that as I do."

Warren Bigler, of Washburn, has just returned from a business trip to Mississippi and Louisiana, where he went to dispose of some timber lands in which he was interested.

"I stopped off in Indianapolis just to learn something about state politics," he said. "I have heard there is something of a contest on in connection with the reorganization of the Republican party, and I want to hear some of the particulars. Personally I regard such a contest, if there is one, as unnecessary and unfortunate. The party can't afford to have a contest within its own ranks on the eve of a national campaign, and should think that the members of the state committee who served through the last campaign are best qualified to make up the more important fight of next year."

John Morgan, of Plainfield, while here yesterday gave the Barlow gubernatorial boom an impetus. "Senator Barlow will be the next Governor of Indiana if he becomes a candidate for the Republican nomination," he said. "Barlow would have the Fifth district behind him, and would have much strength in the western and southern parts of the State. More than that, he is a mighty shrewd politician. He is a great fighter and small and snappy and a dozen friends will have an average politician looking around for some one to speak to."

There is a slight increase in the demand for steel cars, some idle works are being made to still further curtail the output of pig iron. Some industrial interest is being shown in the material for office buildings, warehouses and bridges, but orders are insignificant when compared with the volume of work in the line. In the sheet market there are reports of price concessions by independent producers, and small and medium-sized large pieces and tubes are in brisk request, order-books assuring activity well into next year. There is a slight increase in demand for steel cars, some idle works are being made to still further curtail the output of pig iron. Some industrial interest is being shown in the material for office buildings, warehouses and bridges, but orders are insignificant when compared with the volume of work in the line. 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